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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent

In Re:

Application Number: 10/045,082

Examiner: [none yet]

Applicants: Edward Samson Chiu et al

Group Art Unit No.: 3753

Filed: January 15, 2002

Preliminary Class: 137

RECEIVED

For: Mixing faucet having multiple discharges

APR 1 5 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

37 C.F.R. § 1.97 Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Customer Service Center Washington, D.C., 20231 RECEIVED

MAY - 2 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed ten (10) U.S. patents, which are a part of my IDS statement. I am submitting this correspondence within 3 months from filing the patent application.

The patents are:

	·		
1. Reb	er	3,965,937	June 29, 1976
2. Chy	en	5,195,681	Mar. 23, 1993
3. Chiu	ı	5,634,220	June 3, 1997
4. Bert	rand et al	5,823,229	Oct. 20, 1998
5. Ko		5,871,032	Feb. 16, 1999
6. Dim	mer	5,887,796	Mar. 30, 1999
7. Hun	npert et al	6,085,790	July 11, 2000
8. Bov	aird et al	6,093,313	July 25, 2000

9. Costello et al

D-441,835 S

May 8, 2001

10 Brandebusemeyer

US2001/0044955 A1

Nov. 29, 2001

Discussion

Reber

3,965,937

June 29, 1976

FIG 1, along with column 1, lines 47 – 50 and column 2, line 37, discloses a washbasin faucet having a gooseneck portion (3), a downward water channel (1) and a side water outlet (23).

Chyen

5,195,681

Mar. 23, 1993

FIG 1 and column 2, lines 20 – 26, illustrate a faucet with an upper tube hole (22) and a bottom discharge outlet (14). Water can come out either opening, yet by occluding the bottom outlet (14) water squirts upward out of tube hole (22).

Chiu

5,634,220

June 3, 1997

In FIGS 1, 2 and 3, plus column 2, lines 7 – 15, a double functional faucet is shown having a large passage (112) which discharges water downward, and a small passage (111) within the large passage. The small passage also discharges water downward.

Bertrand et al

5,823,229

Oct. 20, 1998

FIG 2, and column 9, lines 15 – 20, reveal a faucet having multiple discharges, specifically a spray discharge (484) and a stream discharge (482).

Ko

5,871,032

Feb. 16, 1999

In FIG 2 and column 2, lines 9-17, a diverter valve assembly is shown. The tubular section (41) has multiple outlet tubes (44) on one end.

Dimmer 5,887,796 Mar. 30, 1999

FIG 2 and claim 1 reveal a multiple discharge nozzle with an outlet end (20) and a spray nozzle (40) at 90° angles to one another.

Humpert et al 6,085,790 July 11, 2000

Column 4, lines 33 – 42 talks about the internal functioning of the dual flow faucet head and how water diversion occurs down out of an aerator (51).

Bovaird et al 6,093,313 July 25, 2000

FIGS 1 and 2, in addition to column 3, lines 4-7, depict downward discharges (26) and (24) located on the end of a water faucet with a self-contained filter.

Costello et al D-441,835 S May 8, 2001

The design patent in FIGS 1, 2 and 6 illustrate a faucet with one large and one small downward discharge at the very end.

Brandebusemeyer US2001/0044955 A1 Nov. 29, 2001

FIG 1 and paragraph [0020] on page 2 reveal aerator outlets (21) and (22) located on the end of a dual outlet faucet. Both let water flow downward.

Conclusion

None of the above references, taken individually or in combination, disclose, suggest, or teach the novel features of the present invention. The references represent the most relevant ones found after a Class/Sub-class search.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this 5-page correspondence, copies of the 10 patents, a 1 page IDS form, a 1 page transmittal form, and a return postcard are being sent via a next day Fedex carrier to the USPTO, Box Patent Application, Washington D.C. 20231.

March 11, 2002

Samuel Chiu

Inventor and applicant